



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Clostridium difficile, also known as C. difficile or C. diff, is a bacterium that causes inflammation of the colon; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 500,000 patients nationwide are diagnosed with Clostridium difficile and require treatment each year, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- WHEREAS: Nearly 29,000 patients with Clostridium difficile die within 30 days of the initial diagnosis. Of those, roughly 15,000 deaths are estimated to be directly attributable to Clostridium difficile infections; and
- WHEREAS: Clostridium difficile is the most common microbial cause of health care-associated infections in U.S. hospitals and costs up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess health care costs for acute care facilities alone; and
- WHEREAS: 1 out of every 5 patients with Clostridium difficile experiences a recurrent infection and 1 out of every 9 patients over the age of 64 with a Clostridium difficile health care-associated infection dies within 30 days of the diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's health care facilities employ dedicated professionals who work to improve health outcomes and promote patient and staff safety in order to minimize and prevent Clostridium difficile; and
- WHEREAS: Increased public awareness of Clostridium difficile and further research are necessary to expand treatment options and provide those impacted by the infection with a better quality of life; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 2017 as CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 18th day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF